the Assistant Surgeons is doing this work of Resident Medical Officer. He is given a place for residence within the premises of the hospital. He has just the ordinary qualifications required for an Assistant Surgeon."

SRI P. B. K. RAJACHIDAMBARAM :—" Am I to understand that the average number of in-patients in the Tiruchirappalli hospital is less than 350? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is not the average number of in-patients but the sanctioned bed strength which is 275."

Kangayam Cattle Improvement Scheme

* 1248 *Q.*—SRI M. JAGANNATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to extend the period of the Kangayam Cattle Improvement Scheme beyond 31st March 1954?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The scheme has already been extended up to 31st March 1957."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Questions over."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—MOTION UNDER RULE 40 *RE* CLOSURE OF WIMCO AT DHARMATAM, NORTH MALABAR.

9-20 a.m. * SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, the motion is ' the closure of Wimco at Dharmatam, near Tellicherry, North Malabar, on 1st January 1955 in violation of section 33 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and the failure of the Government to intervene and take steps against the management for the illegal closure of the company and also for the reinstatement of workers thrown out of employment consequently '.

" Sir, the closure of the company took place on January 1, 1955. As a result of this 240 workers including the staff are unemployed. Sir, regarding this company, there are cases pending before the Appellate Tribunal and the Coimbatore Industrial Tribunal. According to the Appellate Tribunal Act and Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, if any case is pending before the Court, the management cannot close the factory without the permission of the Court. In this connexion, I wish to state, the management never took permission from the Court. So the closure is illegal. This kind of illegal closure is very common in Malabar and also I have to state that the Government is not taking any steps against these kinds of illegal closure. Further, before such a closure, it is the duty of the management to give prior notice to the workers. On January 1, 1955, the factory was closed; on December 31, in the morning . . ."